

Bryce Yokomizo Director

July 14, 2003

TO:

**Each Supervisor** 

FROM:

Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: DIRECT DEPOSIT QUARTERLY REPORT

This is to provide you with an update on the current number of participants who received their cash benefits by Direct Deposit for the quarter April through June 2003.

Beginning with this report to your Board, we will report the number of payments <u>issued</u> each month during the quarter to participants using Direct Deposit. The number of payments better represents the Direct Deposit participant rate than the number of participants <u>signed up</u>. This is because through June 2003, we have signed up close to 14,000 participants for Direct Deposit, but this is not reflected in the payment counts due to bank account closures, case terminations, and participant cancellations from Direct Deposit. The payments issued during the quarter are as follows:

MONTH	PAYMENTS USING DIRECT DEPOSIT		Total
	Monthly	Supplemental*	
April	7,294	765	8,059
May	6,986	732	7,718
June	6,821	487	7,308

Please note that supplemental payments are payments that are authorized and generated after the system cut-off date for the payment month. These payments may include additional eligible benefits for the month due a change in income and/or household composition, or the regular monthly benefit.

The average number of issuances, 7,605, is a decrease from the average (7,804) issued last quarter. The decrease is primarily a result of the large number of Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) participants (40% of whom have Direct Deposit) who have been terminated from CAPI and transitioned to SSI.

To increase the number of Direct Deposit cases, we are planning an aggressive marketing campaign. We are already working with Washington Mutual Bank (one of the few banks with surcharge-free ATMs for EBT cardholders) in planning special mailings of bank-designed marketing material; collocating bank staff at DPSS offices, job fairs, and community events; and establishing a special multilingual 800 line (which will be bank-staffed) on Direct Deposit. My staff are meeting with WAMU again later this month to begin the next steps in our joint campaign.

## BY:fw

c: Auditor-Controller Chief Administrative Officer County Counsel